



For more information contact:
Toby D. Wagoner
West Virginia Bureau for Public Health
Telephone: (304) 558-6438

Media Advisory

Who: Dr. Cathy Slemple, Acting State Health Officer

What: Discuss status of H1N1 flu and disease prevention efforts in West Virginia

When: Monday, October 05, 2009
2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Where: West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
Center for Threat Preparedness Office
505 Capitol - Street Suite 200
Charleston, WV 25301

Details:

With the recent media reports surrounding the death of a Cabell County high school student, Dr. Slemple will issue a statement to address the following:

- 1) Provide an update on H1N1 disease occurrence in WV, including fact that H1N1 virus severity has not changed.
- 2) Recognize the fact that this serves as a reminder for why we've taken the H1N1 outbreak so seriously. While the vast majority of individuals with flu recover fine, flu clearly can be a serious disease.
- 3) Reviewing what schools are doing and school guidance that is being used to address occurrence of disease in schools.
- 4) Discuss when people should seek healthcare.
- 5) Emphasize the importance of prevention, including vaccination as vaccine becomes available. Remember, school age children are in the target group for vaccine.

Be advised:

No comments will be made regarding specific cases or deaths for we clearly want to respect individual and family privacy. Any question regarding issues specific to local communities should be directed to the local health department.